## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /072 W

-----280653Z 024081 /11

R 290620Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1606
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USUN NEW YORK 1779
AMEMBASSP PARIS
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 9227

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: OCON, ESCAP

SUBJ: RED: ESCAP: MEKONG PROGRAM

- 1. RED HAS BEEN ADVISED IN PERSONAL CONVERSATION BY PRESENT CHIEF OF ENGINEERING DIV OF THE MEKONG SECRETARIAT (MR. BUI TUANSOUTH VIETNAMESE) THAT A DECLARATION IS BEING DRAFTED BY RTG, SRV AND LPDR DELEGATES ANNOUNCING REACTIVATION OF MEKONG PROGRAM.
- 2. DISCUSSION MEKONG PROGRAM AT ESCAP SESSION DID NOT TAKE PLACE ON 26 APR AT THE APPOINTED TIME, BUT RATHER IT WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE CHAIRMAN THAT IT HAD BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL LATER IN THE SESSION. WHEN QUERIED WHEN DECLARATION AND DISCUSSION MIGHT TAKE PLACE, MR. TUAN NOTED IT WOULD BE IN A QUOTE SPECIAL SESSION UNQUOTE PRIOR TO CLOSURE THIS ESCAP SESSION.
- 3. MR. TUAN, WHO APPEARS RATHER WORN AND CONCERNED, NOTED, IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY ON HIS PERSONAL SITUATION, THAT IT IS RATHER DIFFICULT AT THE MOMENT BUT QUOTE HE COULD HANDLE IT SINCE HE CONFIDENTIAL

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UNDERSTANDS THEM (MEANING NORTH VIETNAMESE) UNQUOTE.

4. COMMENT. RED SUGGESTS THAT SHOULD THE MEKONG PROGRAM BE REACTIVATED, MR. TUAN'S CONTINUING OCCUPANCY OF SUCH AN IMPORTANT POSITION AS CHIEF OF THE ENGINEERING DIV MIGHT BE RATHER TENOUS UNLES HE CAN FULLY CONVINCE NORTH VIETNAMESE OF HIS NEW ALLEGIANCE. FAILING FOREGOING HE MAY WELL REQUEST FRENCH OR U.S. REFUGEE STATUS

AS HAVE OTHER SECRETARIAT STAFF WHEN FACED WITH THE UNAVOIDABLE
DECISION TO RETURN OR NOT TO RETURN TO THEIR INDOCHINA COUNTRY
OF ORIGIN.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: n/a

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: RED: ESCAP: MEKONG PROGRAM

TAGS: OCON, TH, ESCAP

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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